

In the Claims

Please add new claims 35-58 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram.

2. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure has a bioburden level of less than 2 colony forming units per gram.

5. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said bioburden level is less than 1 colony forming unit per gram.

6. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said bioburden level is less than 0.5 colony forming units per gram.

7. – 8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure comprises a delaminated submucosa tissue source pretreated with an oxidizing agent prior to delamination to remove at least a portion of the source of endotoxin.

10. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure comprises a cleaned and then delaminated submucosa tissue source.

11. (Previously Presented) A graft prosthesis comprising:

a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram.

12. – 15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) A graft prosthesis, comprising:

a purified collagen-containing matrix obtained from a mammalian tissue source, said matrix comprising tela submucosa and residual contaminants from said mammalian tissue source, said matrix obtainable by a process which comprises treating said mammalian tissue to remove at least a portion of endotoxin contaminants and then removing said matrix from the treated mammalian tissue, and disinfecting said matrix so that it has an endotoxin level of less than 12 endotoxin units per gram.

17. (Original) The graft prosthesis of claim 16, wherein said matrix has a contaminant level making said matrix biocompatible in humans.

18. (Original) The graft prosthesis of claim 16, wherein said disinfecting comprises contacting said mammalian tissue with an oxidizing agent.

19. (Original) The graft prosthesis of claim 17, wherein said mammalian tissue source is a porcine tissue source.

20. (Original) The graft prosthesis of claim 19, wherein said porcine tissue source is porcine small intestine.

21. – 34. (Canceled)

35. (New) A graft prosthesis, comprising:
a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure further comprises a component selected from the group consisting of glycoproteins, glycosaminoglycans, and proteoglycans.

36. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 35, wherein said tissue source is a porcine tissue source.

37. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 36, wherein said porcine tissue source is porcine small intestine.

38. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 35, wherein said purified structure is sterilized using a peracid.

39. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 38, wherein said peracid is peracetic acid.

40. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 35, wherein said purified structure is in the form of a sheet.

41. (New) A graft prosthesis comprising:
a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure further comprises a component selected from the group consisting of glycoproteins, glycosaminoglycans, and proteoglycans.
42. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 41, wherein said tissue source is a porcine tissue source.
43. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 42, wherein said porcine tissue source is porcine small intestine.
44. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 41, wherein said purified structure is sterilized using a peracid.
45. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 44, wherein said peracid is peracetic acid.
46. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 41, wherein said purified structure is in the form of a sheet.
47. (New) A graft prosthesis, comprising:
a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having a contaminant level making said purified structure biocompatible, said purified structure further having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure further comprises a growth factor.
48. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 47, wherein said tissue source is a porcine tissue source.
49. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 48, wherein said porcine tissue source is porcine small intestine.

50. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 47, wherein said purified structure is sterilized using a peracid.

51. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 50, wherein said peracid is peracetic acid.

52. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 47, wherein said purified structure is in the form of a sheet.

53. (New) A graft prosthesis comprising:
a purified, collagen-based matrix structure removed from a submucosa tissue source, said purified structure having an endotoxin level of less than 5 endotoxin units per gram, wherein said purified structure further comprises a growth factor.

54. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 53, wherein said tissue source is a porcine tissue source.

55. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 54, wherein said porcine tissue source is porcine small intestine.

56. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 53, wherein said purified structure is sterilized using a peracid.

57. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 56, wherein said peracid is peracetic acid.

58. (New) The graft prosthesis of claim 53, wherein said purified structure is in the form of a sheet.